The Penny Proud Incident?: Love, Danville, Milo, and the Intricacies of Murphy's Law
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by lefemmerouge2

Summary

Penny Proud is like any other girl but with a somewhat dysfunctional family. Her dad is an utter goofball (but caring). Her mom is a successful veterinarian. Her grandmother is caring. Her uncle can be wild and unpredictable. Her siblings are *annoying*. And then there's her school friends, who she has a very rocky relationship with. Who knows why she hasn't dropped them like a hot rock already. Anyway, one day, she travels to Danville on a school trip. As she is about to get out of the bus, she finds herself trapped inside. She is saved by some White kid with a sweater vest and some girl who reminds her of LaCienega. While she doesn't know it at the time, this interaction is set to change her life and those in Danville forever...

Notes

Some time ago, I watched "The Proud Family" in preparation for the reboot and rewatched "Milo Murphy's Law" for fun. I thought it would be interesting to have a crossover between the two shows. I also wrote this fic because of the 119 fics for The Proud Family currently on here, about 32 are rated mature, 41 are rated for general audiences, 31 are rated teen and up, 14 are rated explicit, and one is not rated.

This fic, which I originally started back in late December 2023, I rated as Teen and Up. I wanted to balance out the mature and explicit fics for this fandom. I suppose this is set sometime in the first seasons of "The Proud Family" and "Milo Murphy's Law", but it's not a firm date. I had a lot of fun writing this fic. My original title was "Penny Proud Goes to Danville" but I decided to make the title a bit stronger.

While I missed the deadline to post this in September, according to the FAQ for Tropetember, the "AO3 collection will remain open until the one for next year is up and you can still post your works there." This fic falls into various prompts, like "Requited/Unrequited Love" (for September 25), and "Fusion / Crossover" (for September 29).

This fic was cross-posted on Squidge World. It was also cross-posted on Quotev and Wattpad, with the second part of the title serving as "the title" of the fic itself.

Update: Hey everyone. I thought I'd plug my other fic with Disney characters named "Coming Home… For Good?: Elena's Unexpected (Royal) Roommate." It's very different from this one, but I really enjoyed writing it.

See the end of the work for more notes

- Inspired by Nobody Not Really by scumbubbl
- Inspired by [Restricted Work] by OneCoolCat
- Inspired by Amanda Show: Season One: Episode One by KPfan1013
- Inspired by Time for a change by baby345
- Inspired by Cherry and the Proud Family by PerkyGoth14

The bus came to a stop. The kids groaned. Yet another boring field trip, the 14-year-old thought. Her friend Dijonay complained. "Why are we in this White-ass town? What could possibly be here?" Their teacher shrugged. He explained. "This place isn't what you are used to…Danville is something special...I *guarantee* it." The answer didn't satisfy Dijonay. But, she didn't want to be stuck in this damn stuffy bus anymore. Neither did Sticky, Zoey, or LaCienega.

Their 14-year-old friend was the last one to step off the bus. Before she could, she felt unstable. She fell back inside the bus and the doors slammed. She shrieked. "PENNY!" her friend Dijonay cried out. The front wheels of the bus fell off one by one. The vehicle began skidding down the street. "Somebody, HELP!" Penny shouted. Her friends could only watch in horror as the bus continued moving through Danville at a high rate of speed. They didn't know what to do.

A 14-year-old kid in a sweater vest was biking across town with his friends. He usually did this kind of thing during this part of the morning. "Milo, are you sure you're okay on a bike?" his orange-haired friend asked. He chuckled. "I'm fine Melissa, don't worry." His brown-haired friend grumbled. He knew what could happen…around Milo. No one could take any chances. "I hope this doesn't become the…*bicycle incident*."

Milo laughed. He tried to reassure his friend. "It's fine Zack, nothing will go wrong today, I promise you." His other friend, with thick, bushy brown hair, was not reassured. He didn't want anything to happen to Melissa. I mean, he was her boyfriend after all. "Milo, I hope you are right…but, when you are around, *anything* that can go wrong, goes wrong, you know."

Just then, they all heard screaming coming closer and closer. It sounded like it was coming from a young girl. "Amanda, can you pull the spotting scope from my backpack?" She somehow reached in and took out the device. It was optimized for observation of distant objects in detail. People often used it for birdwatching, stargazing, and surveillance, among other tasks.

This time they were using it for something completely different. All four of them stopped their bicycles. Amanda looked at the bus. She zoomed in with the lenses of the scope. She saw something she did not expect. She spotted someone inside... the bus! "There's a girl in there. We *gotta* save her."

Milo scratched his head. He *wasn't* really in the business of saving people. That wasn't what he did. There was a simple reason for that. What if murphy's law doomed the girl in the bus and caused his friends, or even his sweet Amanda, to get hurt? He pushed that thought out of his mind. He supposed it would be worth a try. He could at least attempt to save her, right? "Okay, Amanda, let's do it."

Zack and Melissa weren't sure about this plan. There were so many things that could wrong. Even so, since Milo was their friend, they didn't mind helping…this time. Each one of them stepped off their bikes. Suddenly, out of nowhere, the bikes erupted in flame and their tires exploded. Milo threw up his hands. "That's murphy's law for you!"

Milo gave each of his friends tasks. "Zack and Melissa, work on stopping the bus. Amanda, come with me. We are gonna save that girl." They felt they were all up to it and could save her by working together. Rummaging in Milo's backpack, Zack pulled out a metal pole and a rope. He shouted to him, "tie the rope around the pole, then throw it at the bus!"

Zack and Melissa worked together. She tied the knot around the pole. After this, Zack threw the pole like a javelin, while Melissa tied the rope around a nearby metal post. It smashed through the back window of the bus, then one of the side windows. Zack and Melissa pulled it with all their might and were able to secure the bus, anchoring it to a sturdy metal post. Glancing up, Zack saw that this post was connected to the nearby power lines.

"Milo, you gotta get out of there!" Zack exclaimed. Seeing the nearby power lines, Milo understood what his friend was saying. But, he kept going. He wouldn't stop, no matter the personal danger to him.

Miraculously, Milo and Amanda had somehow made it inside the bus. They didn't have much time. They had to work quickly. "Amanda, hold my hand. You need to grab that girl." She tried to reach Penny, but it was too far. She strained herself. When she had just about given up, Milo spoke to her, "crawl across the floor. You'll be fine…*I promise*."

She was a bit nervous. She began slowly moving across the floor. For Penny, everything seemed out of control. Was this some way of *punishing her* for her transgressions? She didn't know. Maybe it was.

She took a deep breath. She could do this on her own. She could get out of this situation. She used the bus rail to pull herself up. As she did that, her footing became uneasy. She slid down the middle aisle toward the back of the bus. Suddenly, a metal beam came out of nowhere. She couldn't dodge it.

A loud bang rang in her ears. Suddenly, she felt dizzy and fell into the arms of a girl. She looked up and saw a blurry face. She thought it might be her friend, who she was now on better terms with, after resenting her for a while. Maybe she had come back for her. "LaCienega, is that you?" The girl stared back at her with a confused look. Who in the world was LaCienega? Then it all went black as she became unconscious.

Milo grabbed Amanda, and the girl in her arms, and leapt out of the bus. He pulled out retractable skies from his backpack. He continued to hold Amanda and Penny in his arms. The bus behind them exploded after the electric pole fell and hit the metal surface, electrifying it. Amanda and Zack were relieved. They had made it out alive. The girl had been rescued... somehow.

Running toward them, Amanda asked, "Milo, Amanda, are you okay?" Both of them nodded. Milo let down Amanda gently. He was a bit fatigued from carrying two people at once. Even though he was resourceful, weightlifting was not one of his talents! He tried to catch his breath. Amanda then placed Penny on the sidewalk. They all looked at one another. Zack asked the obvious question. "What are we going to do about her?"

Amanda spoke up, stopping Milo or Melissa from saying anything. Feeling Penny's head, her hand touched a bump. She had luckily taken a First Aid class the previous week. It was a

required course, but wanted to do it, just in case, to help the people she cared about. She didn't want to be responsible for someone getting hurt, even a stranger. What would her parents say? They had to get that girl medical attention and stat.

"Let's bring her to a hospital," she declared.

Zack and Melissa stared at her like she had 1,000 heads. Was she out of her mind? How in the world were they supposed to get her to a hospital? It didn't make a lick of sense. Milo smiled. "Don't worry, it will all work out."

At that very second, they happened to pass the Rolling Bed Emporium. The front window was accidentally smashed by a wrecking ball which came out of nowhere. Sometimes construction workers in this town did the wrong thing. One of the beds came rolling toward them. Milo, Amanda, Zack, Melissa, and Penny were thrown onto the bed. They'd be at the hospital yet.

They went speeding down the road. Milo reached inside his backpack and pulled out some bunjee cords, strapping himself and his friends to the bed. He didn't have anything else to stop their trajectory. They hold on for dear life. Miraculously, they made it to the front of the Danville Community Hospital without a scratch. Somehow, they made it inside. Right after, the awning over the door started to crumble. Luckily, it never collapsed.

Amanda ran up to the counter: "this girl is unconscious. She needs a doctor!" The assistant at the desk nodded. She prepared a gurney right away, almost like they had it ready, on hand, for a situation like this. That wasn't any accident, because Milo had donated money so that they could help people like this, because he felt so bad about the injuries he had caused. As the doctors brought to a room, as they walked into the hospital, one physician smiled at him, happily. "Nice to see you, Milo!" Great to see you Milo!" another one said. Melissa and Amanda thought it was weird, but Zack was a bit freaked out. Then he saw a sign calling this the "Milo Murphy Wing." Huh? What!?

"Uh, Milo, is there anything you'd like to tell us?" his friend asked. He shrugged. "Nah, not really. They just dedicated this to me because I gave them some money…" He then added, "it was only $100,000," he said, almost nonchalantly. This caused Amanda's ears to perk up. That was such a large amount! Was he involved in some gang or something? "*Milo*, where in the world did you get that money? You always seem like you have *no money* at all when we go on dates together." Milo sheepishly looked at her. He couldn't lie. He had to be honest with the girl he loved. "Well, I got a settlement from helping stop some evil scientist *I think*. I got an anonymous donation with that amount."

It still seemed a little unbelievable. As they walked toward the room where Penny was being treated, a thought came to Zack. "Uh, Amanda, are you dating Milo?" She laughed in her typical way. She put her arms around Milo, making him blush. She shook her head. "Of course I am, *silly.* He may be affected by murphy's law, but he's still *my* Milo. No law can take that from me." Milo threw up his hands. "I was gonna tell you, Zack. The time just wasn't right...that's all."

As he was about to say something, they entered the room and found Penny lying there on a bed. They still didn't know her name. Even so, something about her made them feel obligated

to help her. One of the doctors came in right after they'd entered the room. "Do you know any next of kin for Miss Penny Proud here?" They shook their heads. They'd met her that day. How would they know the answer to that. The doctor sighed. "I'll see what I have on file," he said, before leaving the room. Zack saw an electronic device fall out of her pocket. He grabbed, saving it from hitting the ground and cracking. It was a cell phone. Although he was a little nervous, he opened it.

Amanda and Melissa looked at him angrily, giving him a dirty look. They did *not* like that he was violating Penny's privacy. They weren't wrong. Milo sided with Zack. "Amanda, Melissa. I know you don't like this, but *we need* to contact her family. What if they don't know she's here?" They realized Milo was right. Zack went through her contacts. Searching for a while, he found a contact labeled "(Real) Mamma," another named "Suga Mama," plus others labeled "dumbo Dad," "Bobby," "LaCi," "Dijonay," and "Zoey." Zack decided to click on the one labeled "(Real) Mamma." It was worth a try. Suddenly the phone began to ring.

"Penny, what's going on baby? You *never* call me." Zack wasn't sure how to reply to her. He decided to be polite. That's what his parents had taught him. "Ma'am, your daughter's in the hospital. We saved her from a bus but…" His voiced faded away, because he was very nervous. He heard the woman on the other end pacing. She then grabbed the phone back. She was *angry*. "If this is prank or you are working for that damn Wizard Kelly, I'm gonna pop your ass."

Clearly very frightened, with everyone else biting their nails in the room, Zack played it cool. "It isn't ma'am," he began. "I'm Zack Underwood. I'm at the Danville Community Hospital. I helped bring her here with my friends." The woman was relieved but still worried. "I'll be there in 20 minutes. You better stay there with *my baby*." Zack replied. "Yes, ma'am." The phone call ended when she hung up.

As they sat around in the room for twenty minutes, Milo saved them from a variety of other disasters. He wasn't the one to thank this time. Rather, safety features were built into every hospital room thanks to his massive contribution. Just as they were starting to fall asleep, they saw a beautiful, slender, and curvy woman walk into the room. Her lime green blazer was shining in the light. Her light skin complimented her reddish-brown hair, which was cut in a bob hair style.

She looked around and saw them all there. She walked over to Penny. "My baby!" she said, tears streaming down her cheeks. She hugged Penny tightly. She'd deal with them *later*. Seeing that her daughter had only lost consciousness, but still was breathing, it made her relieved. Scanning around the room, she could tell who made the phone call. Coming close to Zack, she asked, "you are Zack Underwood...right?" He nodded. Her hazel eyes looked into his.

"I have to thank you and your friends for helping my baby. I couldn't have something happen to her," she started to say. "I don't get along as much as I used to. We fight more now, but I still love her all the same." Amanda spoke up. "I can tell you are a caring mother." Trudy smiled. Her dark pink lipstick was shining. "Thanks." As they were about to leave, Trudy held onto Zack's hand. She wouldn't let it go. "Why don't you all come over for dinner?"

Zack turned to his friends. They all nodded. "Dinner would be nice. I have to warn you, my friend here… he experiences murphy's law." She laughed. She was intelligent enough to know what that meant. She'd even studied it in school. "Oh, when *anything* that can go wrong will go wrong, right? That's fine. I deal with that kind of thing *a lot*. So I'm almost used to it.' Milo was intrigued. He didn't say anything, nor did he know that her husband, Oscar, was a bit juvenile and obnoxious. He was well-meaning and affable, mixed with overprotectiveness in regards to Penny.

Trudy pulled out a piece of paper and wrote down the address. She then wrote her phone number on the same paper. As she walked out of the room, she talked to some of the doctors. One of them told her that Penny, if she woke up, would be discharged in a couple days. As they waved to Trudy, she waved back, smiling. Amanda and Melisa were impressed by her style. They could tell she was responsible, nurturing, and smart. That much was clear.

"I wanna be like her some day," Melissa remarked. Zack jested her, saying she could never pull off that kind of style, annoying her. That fact that Trudy was a successful Black woman was just normal for them. Nothing was unusual about it. Nothing at all. They didn't even comment on it. As they went back home, they expected that nothing would come of this, that they wouldn't see her again. That this was over. They wouldn't be more wrong.

A few days later, Milo received a call from the Danville Community Hospital. "Penny Proud is being discharged today, Mr. Murphy," one of the doctors remarked. They weren't supposed to reveal this to people outside the hospital. He was appreciative of what Milo had done. So he decided to tell him. "Thank you for the information," Milo said. The man thanked him again, then hung up.

Milo shared this with Melissa, Zack, and Amanda. They were ready to meet... the Proud family. After trying on different outfits, their ride was there. It was a company called Vanessa Drives You Places. She got extra cash for clothes and other stuff with this side-gig. "Where'd you like to go?" She asked. "Wizville," Milo answered. He gave her the exact address which Trudy had given him.

Vanessa drove, while Milo sat in the passenger seat. On the drive there, they chattered away, with Amanda getting more and more jealous. Luckily for her, getting to Wizville was easy. There wasn't much traffic that time of day. After they reached their destination, Vanessa parked the car. She opened the doors for them. "Thanks, Milo. I hope that your drive was successful. Please consider Vanessa Drives You Places again." He grinned. "Anytime, *Vanessa*."

As the car drove away, Amanda grilled him. She had been so extremely jealous that some parts of their conversation had been lost to her. If that wasn't bad enough, she had taken a nap as they drove to Wizville. She didn't like any girl getting close to *her* man. "Oh, she was just telling me all these funny stories. Like, her dad fights this platypus named Perry who wears a fedora. He makes all these evil inventions and everything. I didn't believe her at first, but after she talked about it for so long, it really did make sense." Amanda didn’t know how to respond. She grabbed Milo's hand tightly, not wanting anyone else to take it away from her. Zack rang the doorbell.

Trudy answered and happily opened it. "Welcome to our home." Her daughter was watching the TV. She had plopped herself down on the couch after Trudy had brought her back from the hospital. She was slowly recovering. She was watching a puff piece about Wizard Kelly. He was boasting that he was buying up yet another apartment building in town. He made the absurd claim he was providing a place for the homeless to live. Anyone who knew him, could smell that this was a lie. "Penny, the guests are here!" Trudy shouted. Penny replied in her usual way, "But *Mamma*, Wizard Kelly's on." She shook her head. "Just please come into the kitchen." Penny groused. "*Fine*, Mamma."

Coming in, a little annoyed, she was surprised to see Zack, Milo, Amanda, and Melissa standing there. Something about them seemed familiar. Her mom guessed she might not remember everything, so she introduced them to her. "These are the people who saved you." She didn't know what her mom meant. Saved her from what? The memories started to come back to her, flooding back. She recalled Milo's face and that other girl, who she thought was LaCienega, when she was on the bus. The next thing she remembered, she was in the hospital. Had they brought her there? What was she supposed to tell them?

"Um, thanks," she said. Her mom prompted her to say more. She grumbled. "I'm grateful you did what I did. I...uh...don't remember much of it." Milo joked. "In some ways, you are glad you didn't. I mean, we were traveling toward the hospital while strapped to a rolling bed." Zack shook his head. He wished Milo hadn't said that. He didn't his friend to scare Penny. "It's fine. We go through this kind of stuff all the time. Milo has an affliction of murphy's law, you know."

To everyone surprise, Penny laughed. "Oh, I know what that is. My momma told me that my dad has that." Trudy said, almost under her breath, "Yeah, he does in a way, although *maybe* not as strong as Milo." Somehow he sensed that someone was talking about him. His hearing improved whenever someone was talking about *him*. When she talked about something else, he acted like he didn't hear it. It continually annoyed her.

"Trudy, are you saying anything bad about me in there? Trudy!!!!," he said in his usual demeanor. She shouted back. "No, no, we aren't. Just talking with the guests, *Oscar*." He seemed to accept her explanation and went back to watching TV. He hoped that the ad he paid for would be airing about now. It would advertise the *terrible* snacks he made. He had paid some good money for it.

Suga Mama wasn’t there this time, nor was Bobby. They were enjoying their time out on the town, along with Papi. Penny was glad that her friends weren't there. She remembered back to when she was in the hospital, as she petted Puff, a small white poofy dog with small legs. She was Suga Mama's dog, but she was staying there for the night. There was a lot of drama going on, as there *always* was with Penny's friends.

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"Penny, are you okay?" Dijonay asked. She nodded. LaCienega scoffed and grumbled. She shook her head. "Why did you stay in the bus? You should have left prior to us...kinda *dumb* if you ask me." Dijonay looked at LaCienega, clearly angry. She hated when she disrespected Penny. On the other hand, Penny was used to these sort of snipe. She knew that her friend was good at heart. Some people would have wondered why she remained friends with them,

after everything. After all, they had double-crossed her in the past. She did because she felt the connection with them. They always, ultimately, supported one another.

"LaCienega, you shouldn't say that about Penny...she just…," Zoey softly suggested. Penny glared at her friend as well. Her friend looked away, not wanting to admit she had said something pretty mean. She surprised them all with what she said next. "When I was losing consciousness, I thought that I saw you, LaCi, but… it was just *this girl* named Amanda Lopez." This got her attention. Someone would looked like her? How could Penny have made a mistake?

Dijonay took out her phone and looked up the name. She found an article showing Amanda and Milo at a cooking contest. "Is this who saved you, Penny?" she asked. She nodded. As her friend read more, she found articles noting the dangers of murphy's law. *Some people* called Milo a walking disaster zone. This was not good! This could be a big problem. "I hope you aren't in some sort of trouble...this Milo kid…"

Penny jumped in, interrupting her thought. "It's fine, Dijonay, Zo, and LaCi," she started saying. "Yeah, he has this murphy's law thing, but so what? He and his...uh girlfriend, I think, saved me...I'm grateful." This time, Zoey, Dijonay, and LaCienega looked at her like she had six heads. Dijonay sighed. "At least you are okay." "See you around, Penny," Zoey said, nicely. LaCienega had the last word. "Well, see you at your funeral." Her comment got death stares from the rest of them. Dijonay punched her in the arm, causing her to slink back. She left the room with a huff. Penny breathed deeply. Finally they were gone. Sometimes LaCienega could be *too much.*

…

Back in the kitchen, they ate macaroni and cheese, plus some collard greens on the side. Penny had decided to start becoming a vegetarian. Her mom had been supportive. In contrast, her dad had *insisted* she needed meat, citing a bunch of debunked studies. Her friends were somewhat supportive. Only one of them, Zoey, really backed her. The others were only cool to the idea.

"So, Milo, what's it like dealing with calamities *all the time*?" He shrugged. People had asked him similar questions and he didn't mind answering them. It was a bit hard to explain this to people he didn't know. "I'm always prepared, for any situation, thanks to my backpack...and my friends...and my sweet Amanda…" He paused for a second. "Is my girlfriend." Amanda smiled. "It's a *lot* with Milo, sometimes. But I can't stay angry at *my* cute Milo...I just can't."

Penny couldn't really understand why someone would want to be close, romantically, or sexually, to Milo. Wasn't he a walking disaster zone, an unmitigated calamity? She could never be with someone like that. Some women had their own unique tastes, *apparently*. If she had known Milo more, she may have realized he was a nice kid, despite being very accident-prone. As they continued to talk, she was touched by how much they both cared about each other. She chuckled. She liked hearing Zack's stories. He talked about adventures he had gone with Milo. Sometimes Melissa and Amanda came along with them.

The dinner went on like this. Trudy talked about her time as a vet. Melissa talked about some fun times she had with Zack. In the process, she revealing that he was once part of the

Lumberzacks. This only embarrassed him more. It was a good inside joke they had. He hated when they brought this up, especially with new friends. Melissa pulled her phone of her pocket. She went to LuRube and played a clip. He put his head in his hands. The video showed Zack, along with a bunch of other boys, together. They did a bunch of stunts, like climbing up a tree, and they were dancing in formation together. They told listeners that they would "chop, chop, away" at their hearts.

The song kept going on, as they kept dancing and remaining in sync, often with Zack having a staring role. Trudy didn't stay around to watch, as it wasn't her speed. But Penny was fascinated.

"Do you like to sing, Zack?" she asked. He sighed. "Yeah, but these band members are… kinda *jerks*." Penny understood. Her friends were like that. She had briefly formed a band with LaCienega, Zoey, and Dijonay, but it didn't last as long as it could have. She missed it. "I totally get that...singing is so much fun...I used to do it with my friends but I'm too nervous to join a band here or something." Zack smiled. He pulled out his phone. "Here's my number," he said nonchalantly, like it was something he did every day.

Milo didn't mind. While Amanda was a bit concerned, Melissa was horrified. Penny could sense the jealousy coming from Melissa. She didn't want anything to get in the way of their new friendship. Zack could be with that *White girl*. It was fine. She didn't have any issue with interracial relationships. In fact, one of her best friends, Zoey, was a White girl. In another world, under different circumstances, she might have gone out with Zack.

"So...uh...Melissa, you can have my number too." This surprised her. She hadn't expected Penny to act this way. And her worries will dispelled even further when the girl said, "I want to be your friend too. In fact, I want to be all of your friends...it's...um...the least I can do for you all saving me." Zack could have felt a little humiliated. Thanks to her asking for their numbers, he felt a bit relieved. He was glad that Milo was getting more friends, and Melissa too. They had to break out their comfort zones. She shared her number with Milo and Amanda too, who were more than happy to share their numbers with her.

As they laughed together, enjoying each other's company, the time passed like there was no tomorrow. Before long it was time for Melissa, Zack, Milo, and Amanda to go. She waved goodbye to them. Their ride was there. On the side of the car were the words "Vanessa Drives You Places" in big-block letters. The driver caught her eye. It was something about her long brown hair, black leather boots, pants, and jacket. She looked up the company on her phone right after the vehicle left. She found it. She decided to wait to call, knowing that Milo and his friends would be in the car. She had to do this very, very carefully. She couldn't mess this up. She *had to* meet her.

After scrolling through social media for about an hour, she was ready. She breathed deeply. She had to take the plunge. Something about this woman drew her in. Maybe it was the brown hair, or the black leather jacket. She didn't know. She did not know what had come over her. She typed in the digits and called the number. Put her phone to her ear, it continued to ring. A woman suddenly answered. "Hi, this is Vanessa Drives You Places. How may I assist you today." Penny chuckled at how serious she was being. Perhaps it *was* a serious

business after all. She respected that. "I'm Penny Proud. My *new* friends Milo, Amanda, Melissa, and Zack just got a ride from you, correct?"

Vanessa shook her head. What was this girl doing? "I'm sorry, ma'am, but I can't discuss clients over the phone." Penny guessed she'd say something like this. She almost surprised herself when the words came tumbling out of her mouth. "Well, I'd like *your* number, miss." She couldn't believe herself! Why was she asking for this woman's number? What had she done? She had almost done this whole thing as a dare with herself. She couldn't back out now. It was too late.

"Uh, I can't give my number out to clients...my privacy is very important." Penny didn't know what to tell her. She wanted to desperately get out of this situation somehow. She almost felt a bit deflated. An idea came to her. She blurted out something without a second thought, once again. Oops. "Okay, miss. How about you...uh...hang out with me this Saturday?" Vanessa's face was completely flushed. What was this girl's issue? Why had she asked her that? She needed to know. "Arrrree you asking me out on a date?" she asked. She wanted a genuine answer to the question.

Penny wanted this to be over. How could she even respond to this woman's question? What were her mom say to her? She shrugged. "Uhhh, I just want to...uhhh hang out as friends...you know." Vanessa smiled. That was a little better than than in the past. She still didn't know why this girl called her. She felt that she should meet her at least, *right*? That would be the proper thing to do.

"Okay. Let's meet at 10 AM at Danville Mall. Does that work?" Penny breathed deeply. She decided to apologize. "That works. I'm so sorry for calling you. I didn't mean to disturb you or anything. I know you might think this is weird. I just saw you outside my house and I really liked your style...so I wanted to meet you…" Vanessa tried to put this girl at ease. She had gone through all of this just for that. She shook her head. She could tell Penny had a good heart.

"It's fine, Penny. I...look forward to meeting you." Penny quickly replied back. "I do too. See you on Saturday, *Vanessa*." They ended up hanging up at the same time. Penny had been holding it back but her face was warm. Parts of it were turning a lighter shade of brown. She couldn't believe herself. Had she *really asked out* this girl? She'd never gone out on a date with another girl. It had only been boys.

She was starting to lose it. She kept asking herself why she'd even done this at all. She calmed herself down, reminding herself that Vanessa would only be *a friend*. Little did she know, but Vanessa was going through the same thing. She sad in her room in Danville, in her dad's apartment building, her head in her hands. What would happen at their date-not-date/friend gathering would be up to Penny and Vanessa.

End Notes

Some details were added from Milo Murphy's Law fandom wiki pages on Milo and Zack plus the "Trudy Proud" and "Emilyville, California" pages on the Proud Family fandom wiki, and the "Danville" page on the Phineas and Ferb wiki. These pages provided details which were important for this story. I may make this as part of a series I call the "Penny Proud Files." However, I haven't decided yet if I'm going to do that or not.

I struggled on how to end this fic, but I figured it out. Once I got the creative juices flowing, the rest of the fic came together. I was originally just going to have a cameo from Vanessa, but as I finished the fic, I decided to change course and make Vanessa a more important part. Some fics like "Representation", "Guess who's new to the crew?", and "The End of Innocence, But a Start to Wisdom are well-done, but weren't inspirations. Some quotes from this fic were published, prior to it being posted on here, on my candessafan tumblr, enough to get people interested in the fic to come. Amanda would be certainly jealous of Vanessa, as one commenter guessed rightly.

Like my other fics, I used Hemingway App (the free one, without the use of wicked A.I. tools), and found that most of the sentences were classified as easy to read, with some said to be "hard to read." Some sentence changes were made at the time, to make the fic better, and stronger. I also pasted the text into LibreOffice Writer (where I wrote the original draft, as I do with *all* my fics) and updated it from there.

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!